

REPLY TO
ATTENTION C/F:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY OPERATIONS SUPPORT COMMAND (PROV)
1 ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL
ROCK ISLAND, IL 61299-6000

August 7, 2000

Safety/Rad Waste Team

Mr. Bruce Jorgensen
Chief, Decommissioning Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Dear Mr. Jorgensen:

We request an amendment to our source material license SUC-1380 to provide for a one year schedule extension for our Lake City Army Ammunition Plant Area 10 decommissioning activities. The Commission approved the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant, Area 10 decommissioning plan on August 25, 1998. In accordance with Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Paragraph 40.42 we need to complete our decommissioning activities by August 25, 2000 or adequately justify the need for a delay. We have attached (enclosure) our justification and explanation for the unique circumstances surrounding this decommissioning.

Our point of contact for questions or comments is Mr. Mike Styvaert, AMSOS-SF, (309) 782-0880, electronic mail address amsos-sf@osc.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Rosalene E. Graham
Chief, Safety/Rad Waste Team

Enclosure

Attachment 5

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)		# of pages ▶ 7
FAX TRANSMITTAL		
To Srv Brown	From M Styvaert	
Dept / Agency HQ, NRC	Phone #	
Fax # 309 782 0880	Fax #	2988

Copy Furnished:

Lieutenant Colonel Ronald Alberto, Commander,
Lake City Army Ammunition Plant, Independence,
Missouri 64051-0330

Commander, Lake City Army Ammunition Plant, Attention:
SIOLC-EN/Mr. Garth Anderson, Independence,
Missouri 64051-0330

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Attention:
Mr. Scott Marquess, Project Manager, Region VII,
Federal Facilities and Special Emphasis Branch,
Superfund Division, 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas
City, Kansas 66101

State of Missouri, Department of Natural Resources,
Hazardous Waste Program, Mr. Mitch Scherzinger,
1730 East Elm Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear
Material Safety and Safeguards, Division of Waste
Management, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch, Attention: Mr. Stewart Brown,
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Request for a Schedule Extension to the Lake City Army
Ammunition Plant Area 10 Decommissioning

Our Area 10 decommissioning activities have become much more complicated due to the increased volume of contaminated materials, additional contaminants and additional regulatory involvement. We have removed most of the source term (depleted uranium) from Area 10, however we still have over 800,000 cubic feet of material that has the potential to be radiologically contaminated. We know that this 800,000 cubic feet of material contains hazardous levels of lead. In addition to being a Nuclear Regulatory Commission Site Decommissioning Management Plan site, the Environmental Protection Agency has designated Area 10 as a Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Superfund Site.

We cannot continue with the sorting and segregating system approved in the decommissioning plan because of the identified hazardous levels of leachable lead. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has informed us that the Nuclear Regulation Commission approved sorting and segregating plan for Area 10 constitutes treatment of a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste. In order to complete the Area 10 decommissioning we need to pursue one of three options;

(1) We could package and ship all 800,000 ft³ to an offsite treatment/disposal facility. This would entail transporting over 2,000 truckloads of soil to Texas or Utah for offsite sorting, segregating, treatment and disposal. The cost to the Army would be in excess of \$23M. This effort could begin within 6 months assuming we could secure Army funding.

(2) We could theoretically pursue a modification to the Lake City approved Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit which would allow us to sort and segregate the material onsite. However, the State of Missouri will only issue one approved Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit per facility. The Lake City operating contractor (Alliant Techsystems) has an approved Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit to cover the ammunition production operations. Our approved Resource Conservation and

Recovery Act permit requirement would have to come in the form of a modification to the existing Alliant permit. The Army and Alliant have major concerns with the idea of tying the Area 10 remedial activities to the Alliant approved Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit because a violation, as perceived by the State of Missouri, could jeopardize production operations for the entire plant.

(3) Our final option would be to prepare the required documentation and continue the remedial action under the Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act process. By conducting the remedial activities under Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act, we would exempt ourselves from some environmental regulatory requirements, primarily the need for an approved Resource Conservation and Recovery Act treatment permit; although, we would still need to meet the substantive requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The Preparation, staffing and review time for the required Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act documentation would take an estimated 24 months and cost about \$375k. The subsequent cost to sort segregate and dispose of the residual radioactive and hazardous constituents is an estimated \$8M.

There are several other Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act sites at Lake City that the Army, the Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Missouri have determined pose a greater risk to human health and the environment, and thus are higher priorities for clean up. The most recently developed (by the Army, the Lake City operating contractor, the Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Missouri) schedule for expenditure of Army funds, projects funding for the Area 10 remediation in the year 2008. Interim steps include funding for a feasibility study in 2003 and remediation plan development in 2007. Accelerating the Area 10 schedule will mean sacrificing environmental activities on higher risk sites.

The State of Missouri has said that we cannot segregate, screen or sort the mixed waste materials without an approved Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit or an approved Comprehensive Environmental

Restoration, Compensation and Liability Act remediation plan. We suggest the Commission consider the possibility of transferring regulatory oversight of Area 10 to the Environmental Protection Agency as you did for the Lake City firing range impact areas.

We suggest a meeting with the Commission, the Army, the Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Missouri to discuss the schedule and subsequent handling of this site. This command is in the process of coordinating the meeting for September 20, 2000 at the Lake City plant. The objective of the meeting will be for all parties to agree on an acceptable course of action that meets all regulatory requirements. We will request that each agency send representatives who are empowered to make decisions on the part of their respective organization.

We based our request for a 12-month extension to the current Area 10 decommissioning completion deadline on the assumption that all parties can come to an "immediate action" resolution at the September 20, 2000 regulatory meeting. Our extension request may change pending the outcome of the meeting.